

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018 AT TRINIDAD TOWN HALL, 409 TRINITY STREET

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Rotwein called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. In attendance: Committee Members Kenny, Ibis, Morehead, Cuthbertson, Rotwein, Laos; City staff Provolt; Absent: Myers (Yurok Rep)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kenny/Cuthbertson moved to approve minutes of March 20, 2018 meeting. Motion passed.

III. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR - None

IV. STAFF REPORTS

Rotwein: Public Works is operating with only two staff members. Their main priority is water integrity. At the upcoming budget meeting the City Council will be looking at contracting out mowing, etc. for at least the next 2-3 months. Public works has been asked to provide the City Manager with needs. In addition Public Works has put in a request with Cal Fire for vegetation management on Trinidad Head.

Rotwein provided an update on Galindo Trail and noted that the City is waiting for feedback in writing from the Yurok Tribe and Trinidad Rancheria indicating what direction they want to City to head. The feedback should identify concerns and specifics.

Rotwein also provided an update regarding Van Wycke Trail. The City has a ¾ million dollar grant to fix the trail. A cultural resource analysis is being conducted and Tribal Councils will be meeting with the cultural resource analyst. It was also mentioned that utilities need to be considered.

Provolt: No update.

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Cuthbertson – concerned that the Old Wagon Road trail has not been maintained and neither the City nor John Frame is doing their part in terms of vegetation management. He stated again that he intends to call the Coastal Commission to complain about both parties lack of maintenance. Cuthbertson also has concerns about the road section of the Parker Creek Trail.

Rotwein- explained that the challenge is that the City only has an easement to Parker Creek Road and that it is a private road. The homeowners would need to work together and in conjunction with the city in order to spruce up Parker Creek Road / Trail entrance.

Kenny – only comment is that the trails are getting overgrown.

Morehead – emphasized his items of concerns as the following: trail conditions and improvements should be identified and prioritized, address trail head signage needs as all are poorly marked or not marked at all, Trinidad trail head sign needs to be replaced.

Ibis – noted that a huge tree has fallen along Mill Creek Trail which is on State Park property. Kenny indicated that she had made a report to State Park regarding the fallen tree. Ibis also mentioned that there is a problem with trash being left along the trail entry into the State Park. Morehead noted that all members and community members should feel comfortable reporting these issues to the Sheriff.

VI. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Memorial Bench Policy

The goal for the day regarding the Memorial Bench Policy was to approve the policy and get it moved along to the City Council. Rotwein read the policy aloud to the group.

Laos recommended being less specific regarding the areas that the City intends to post policy notifications and to eliminate Trinidad Head from the list of areas specified. The group agreed.

Based on the agreed upon updates Kenny moved to approve the bench policy. Ibis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and will be moved along to the City Council.

After the policy was approved Morehead noted that the policy did not address the potential need for new (additional) benches. Rotwein indicated that was something that could be recommended to the Council independent of the Bench Policy.

2. Trails Monitoring Report

No new reports have been completed. This action item will be put on hold.

3. Vegetation Management Policy

There should be an overall arching policy that incorporates any existing specifics for current guidelines as detailed in Trinidad Head Vegetation Management Guidelines, Frame litigation, etc. The new guidelines should start with identifying instructions for vegetation management for trails currently lacking any guidelines and should appendix or reference specifics on existing guidelines. Committee discussed this discussion/action item falling under the greater overall trail policy.

4. Signage Design

Morehead reported there has not been much movement from the Gateway committee regarding signage design. They are looking for some commonality across multiple agencies (BLM, Land Trust, Rancheria, etc.) and that concept seems to be mutually accepted by those groups but no real progress has been made in regards to actual designs. Morehead noted that the Trails Committee can and should move forward in determining designs for trail head markers and recommended creating a sub-group within the Committee to tackle this task. The sub-group will attend the Gateway meetings and make recommendations to the Trails Committee reading design ideas. The group decided to put any design discussion on hold and wait for recommendation from the sub-committee. The sub-committee was designated as Morehead, Laos and Ibis. They will meet prior to the next Trails Committee Meeting.

VII. REQUEST FOR FUTURE ITEMS

1. Develop an overall trails policy to provide City Staff with direction and guidelines as to trails management. Rotwein indicated that she will take a stab at a first draft and send it out for comments prior to the next meeting and requested the Committee send her any supporting documents that may be helpful with this project.
2. Discuss membership and option for alternates for those Trails Committee members who represent the outside agencies, not specifically for community representatives.
3. Hear first report from signage sub-committee.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:55 P.M. Next meeting scheduled for June 19th, 2018.

Submitted by:

Nicole Provolt
City Staff

Approved by:

Susan Rotwein
Mayor